

A FOLLY AND A SHAME

By PASTOR ROBERT THORNTON

A great number of our people take the side of racial integration without investigating the matter. The Bible says, "He that answereth a matter before he heareth it, it is a folly and a shame unto him." Episcopal Bishop James Pike has recently urged that the British government and the United Nations use force to destroy the white Rhodesian government. Bishop Pike is, of course, an advocate of racial equality. Like a great many other "Christians," he has fallen into the error of supporting popular social teaching (traditions of men) instead of God's Word.

MOUNTING TENSION

This message might be entitled "Eight Riots Later." By 1963 racial strife in the United States had already grown to dangerous proportions. Then came 1964 with major Negro riots in seven of our large eastern cities. 1965 has been a year of continuous and mounting tension capped by the Watts area riot in Los Angeles. Of this riot, in which 10,000 Negroes went "Mau Mau" for six days, the Governor's fact-finding commission says, "The rioters had no legal or moral justification."

TWO FAMILIES

I remember two families living in the same city. By today's standards, both families were very poor and needy. In one case, the father worked at any job he could find to support his wife and children. Not only did he work, but he studied and sought to become a more useful citizen. He selected a trade and made every effort to perfect his skills in that trade. But he was not afraid to work at other jobs when employment at his trade was unavailable. In time the honesty and industry of this man paid off. He was no longer a needy person hardly able to support his family. Instead he became well established in his community, respected and accepted by all. Naturally his family, who loved and honored him, benefited greatly. No one can remember this man ever demanding anything for himself—but instead he was usually giving freely of his time and energy in whatever job he found to do—no matter how lowly it appeared. There are several passages in the book of Proverbs which aptly describe him "... the hand of the diligent maketh rich ..." (Prov. 10:4) and "The hand of the diligent shall bear rule ..." (Prov. 12:24 and "seest thou a man diligent in his business? he shall stand before Kings ..." (Prov. 22:29) One is reminded of the Apostle Paul's admonition, "And whatsoever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men." (Col. 3:23).

SPECIAL PRIVILEGE DEMANDED

I mentioned two families. I have told you of only one. Now the father of the second family was considerably different. He would work but always grudgingly and on his own terms. He did a great deal of "demanding of his rights." For a while people would listen and he even convinced some that the unpainted house, the yard full of weeds and his ill-clothed family all resulted from mistreatment by his neighbors. The sorry condition of his family and his readiness to cry his troubles aloud was responsible for a great many favors and help which came his way. One would have thought he would have thankfully pitched in to do his part. But such was not his nature. He is still a ne'er-do-well and still demanding his rights.

There are some other passages in the book of Proverbs that very aptly describe this lazy man. Here they are: "He becometh poor that dealeth with a slack hand." (Prov. 10:4) "The slothful man will be put to forced labor" (Prov. 12:24) and the writer of Proverbs says that the slothful man will not even be able to hold a low position for any length of time. (Prov. 22:29).

TWO PEOPLES

This has been the story of two men. I tell you that, in type, it is also the story of two peoples. Now let me refresh your mind about these two peoples.

First, white colonial America, the America

of 1776 and the century following, was composed primarily of one racial family. This is the family which came to this wilderness much more poor and needy than any Negro family today. They faced a wilderness filled with savages. They worked. They fought. They died. In many places, many times they knew utter defeat. Though it has been said before, it none the less is true—they carved an empire out of a wild and savage land. They built a home in the wilderness. With God's help, they spanned a continent, raised the flag of freedom. They raised a standard, an ensign, under which men of spirit and vision could unite. They began a new order of the ages—as it says upon the Great Seal of the United States—NOVUS ORDO SECLORUM.

THE HIDDEN FACTOR

Now let's look at the family which today is making such grandiose demands of equality. It is generally believed that civilization had its beginnings in the lands known as the Fertile Crescent and spread from there, as fire spreads, to other areas of the earth. Different races caught up the spark, so to speak, according to the quality of tinder they themselves represented. The Chinese developed in one way, Europe in another, etc. BUT THE NEGRO RACE NEVER CAUGHT FIRE, although they have had repeated exposure to the flame of civilization in Africa, in Europe and in the Western hemisphere. In every case, the story has always been the same. The moment the support of other races is withdrawn, they retrogress, as in Haiti.

This is the family which is today vociferously demanding the rights which it will never be able to maintain by itself. Here are some examples. According to the U.S. News and World Report (12-20-65) it was the complete lack of the ability of the Blacks to govern themselves that led to the savage Congo rebellion in which hundreds of whites were slaughtered last year.

MORE TO COME?

Is it any wonder, then, that the governor's report on the Watts Negro riot begins by pointing out the grave possibilities of more destructive Black riots to come?

The Black man has been unable to establish any degree of stability in Africa. Turmoil is seething throughout all Black Africa. At this writing, it is the skeleton forces of whites which alone maintain the economy and any degree of order.

Personally, I am wholly in accord with the findings of the Governor's report on the Watts riot. Concluded the report: "No amount of money ... will raise the disadvantaged Negro to the position he seeks and should have ... unless he himself shoulders a full share of the responsibility for his own well being!"

WELFARE CHECKS VERSUS WORK

An amplification of this conclusion is found in the body of the report which says that, although the investigators were assured that multitudes of Negroes who take advantage of California's generous welfare programs would really rather have work than welfare ... the conclusion drawn by the investigators however is just the opposite — that many jobs are unfilled because the rioters would rather have welfare than work.

It is surely true, as already stated, that the Negro has been repeatedly exposed to the flame of civilization for all the years of recorded history—first in Africa and Asia, then in Europe and finally in the Western hemisphere. The logical question cannot be ignored! Why is the Negro, then, yet wholly dependent upon the genius of the white man? If he is truly ready to rule, as Martin Luther King and others claim, why has he not done so long ago within his own domains?

HIT WHITEY—

HIT HIM TILL HE'S DOWN!

Today's most popular sport is to demean the white man, brazenly accusing him of discriminating against the Negro! In this case, I must once again point to the Bible maxim — "He that answereth a matter before he

heareth it, it is folly and shame unto him." (Prov. 18:13).

THE REAL DISCRIMINATION

For instance, many Negroes discriminate against Negroes every day. There are Negroes who run barbershops but their brothers demand to have their hair cut by white barbers! There are Negro attorneys yet, in most cases, Negroes prefer to be defended by white lawyers. There are Negro hotels but Negroes demand rooms in white hotels! There are Negro grocers, but they complain that Negroes pass them up to buy their food at the white grocers! There are Negro doctors but most Negroes demand white doctors. There are Negro restaurants but Negroes demand service in white restaurants. There are Negro theatres — why do most of the Negroes in these areas demand entrance to white theatres? Just who is most guilty of discrimination in these matters? There are Negro churches—but Negroes demand white religion. Certainly the Negro appears to discriminate against himself!

If the Negro civil righters really want to help their race, as they claim, why don't they urge Negro students to excel in their own institutions instead of spending their time forcing their way into white institutions? If these Negro "leaders" are really leading their people upward, why do the standards of achievement continue to drop in all the white schools where integration of black and white has been forced? If the black leaders really love the black people, why don't they go to Africa where quality black leadership is desperately needed?

The Negro Civil Rightists and their white counterparts, especially those who confess to being followers of the Lord Jesus Christ, should read the words of the Apostle in I Cor. 7:20-24: "Let every man abide in the same calling wherein he was called ..."

EDITOR OF JERUSALEM'S "THE ISRAELI BAPTISTS"

CALLS ON JEWS TO STOP THEIR HATE CAMPAIGN AGAINST CHRISTIANS --

In an article published in the "Jerusalem Post" of December 26, 1965, Mr. Chandler Lanier, editor of "The Israeli Baptists", a monthly published in Jerusalem, denounced the measures of persecution practiced by Jews against Christians in Israel. He states: "We have been accused by the orthodox of stealing the souls of children, though not one accusation has ever been sustained. We have been accused of engaging in questionable activity; however the activity referred to was never specified. Once we were accused of dealing in subversive literature; it turned out that the literature in question was the New Testament. Somehow we Baptists have difficulty in thinking of the New Testament as subversive literature."

He further states, "Aren't there possibilities of believing that the Jew also has something to repent of; namely, the persecution of the early Church in the first and second centuries and the persecution of Christians today?"

In quoting an editorial he wrote which was criticized in the Jewish press, Mr. Lanier said: "Mr. Kohn states that the editorial accuses the Jew of being responsible for anti-Semitism; we did not say this. The editorial pointed out that the historical Jewish view that the New Testament is mostly fabrication, that the presentation of the early church recorded therein is untrue, and the gospel story is a little more than a myth are assertions that have contributed to anti-Semitism."

Mr. Lanier concludes by stating, "If after receiving the Christians' confession, the Jew is only willing to reply, 'It is impossible that there should be something lacking in us, then the Jew is not seeking true understanding with Christians. The Jew basks in a never-ending stream of self-righteousness.'"

REMEMBER

"No man escapes when freedom fails.
The best men rot in filthy jails.
And those who cried 'appease', 'appease'
Are hanged by those they tried to please."